### **EXHIBIT "B"**

**Copy of State Court File Index of State Court Action** 

Case No. 2016-DCL-03343

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS WICHITA FALLS DIVISION

JOSHUA THAMES	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
VS.	§	<b>CIVIL ACTION NO.</b> <u>7:16-cv-00097</u>
	§	
QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC AND	§	
OMANTHA SENANAYKE	§	
Defendants.	§	

### INDEX OF STATE COURT FILE CAUSE NO. 2016-DCL-003343

	FILED	DOCUMENT
В		
B-1		Court's Case Summary in Case No. 2016-DCL-03343 in the 357 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court of Cameron County, Texas
B-2	05/23/16	Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure
B-3	05/23/16	Civil Case Information Sheet
B-4	05/23/16	Service of Citation by Certified Mail to Omantha Senanayke
B-5	06/14/16	Affidavit of Service on Quantum Freight, LLC
B-6	06/28/16	Defendant Omantha Senanayke's Motion to Transfer Venue and Original Answer Subject Thereto
B-7	07/06/16	Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition and Request for Disclosure
B-8	07/25/16	Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC's Motion to Transfer Venue and Original Answer, Affirmative Defenses and Special Exceptions Subject to the Defendant's Motion to Transfer
B-9	07/25/16	Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC's Request for Jury Trial

### EXHIBIT "B-1"

Certified Copy of Court's Civil Docket Case No. 2016-DCL-03343 375<sup>th</sup> J. D. Court of Cameron County, Texas

### Case 7:16-cv-00097-O Document 1-2 Filed 08/01/16 Page 4 of 54 PageID 12

#### CASE NO. 2016-DCL-03343

Joshua Thames\$Location:357th District Courtvs.\$Judicial Officer:Magallanes, Juan AQuantum Freight LLC,Omantha Senanayke\$Filed on:05/19/2016

**CASE INFORMATION** 

§

Case Type: Injury or Damage - Motor

Vehicle

Case Flags: Jury Fee Paid

DATE CASE ASSIGNMENT

**Current Case Assignment** 

Case Number 2016-DCL-03343 Court 357th District Court

Date Assigned 05/19/2016

Judicial Officer Magallanes, Juan A

PARTY INFORMATION

Plaintiff Thames, Joshua Lead Attorneys
ALTER, RORY STEPHEN

Retained

713-271-5555(W)

Defendant Quantum Freight LLC McCoy, Colleen

*Retained* 214-749-6000(W)

Senanayke, Omantha McCoy, Colleen

Retained 214-749-6000(W)

DATE EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT INDEX

05/19/2016 Original Petition (OCA)

Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure

Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure

05/19/2016 Civil Case Information Sheet

Civil Case Information Sheet

Party: Plaintiff Thames, Joshua

Party 2: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

05/23/2016 **Citation** 

Quantum Freight LLC returned unserved 06/01/2016

06/01/2016 Service Return

Party: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

Unserved by Sheriff's Office

### 357th District Court Case 7:16-cv-00097-O Document 1-2 Filed 08/01/16 Page 5 of 54 PageID 13

#### CASE NO. 2016-DCL-03343

Party: Plaintiff Thames, Joshua

Party 2: Defendant Senanayke, Omantha 9214 8901 0661 5400 0086 6196 28

05/23/2016 Citation by Certified Mail

Senanayke, Omantha served 05/27/2016

05/31/2016 Service Return

Party: Defendant Senanayke, Omantha

05/23/2016 Clerks Journal

Citation Mailed CM and in Sheriffs Box as Requested. AM

06/14/2016 Service Return

Party: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

Omantha Senanayke's An Appeal Regarding the Accident Claim

06/28/2016 Motion

Defendant Omantha Senanayke's Motion to Transfer Venue and Original Answer Subject Thereto

Party: Defendant Senanayke, Omantha

Defendant Omantha Senanayke's Motion to Transfer Venue and Original Answer Subject Thereto

07/06/2016 Amended Petition

Party: Plaintiff Thames, Joshua

Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition and Request for Disclosure

Party: Plaintiff Thames, Joshua

Party 2: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC 9214 8901 0661 5400 0089 0289 15

07/13/2016 Citation - Secretary of State

Quantum Freight LLC served 07/18/2016

9214 8901 0661 5400 0089 0289 15

07/19/2016 Service Return

Party: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

Party: Plaintiff Thames, Joshua

Party 2: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

07/13/2016 **Citation** 

Quantum Freight LLC unserved

07/25/2016 Motion

Party: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC's Mtn to Transfer Venue and Original Answer, Affirmative

Defenses and Special Exceptions Subject to the Defendant's Motion to Transfer

### Case 7:16-cv-00097-O Document 1-2 Filed 08/01/16 Page 6 of 54 PageID 14

CASE No. 2016-DCL-03343

Party: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC's Mtn to Transfer Venue and Original Answer, Affirmative

Defenses and Special Exceptions Subject to the Defendant's Motion to Transfer

07/25/2016

Jury Demand

Party: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

Defendant Quantum Freight LLC's Request for Jury Trial

07/25/2016 Jury Fee Paid (OCA)

Party: Defendant Quantum Freight LLC

DATE	FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
<b>Defendant</b> Quant	tum Freight LLC	
Total Charges		87.00
Total Payments and	nd Credits	87.00
Balance Due as of	f 8/1/2016	0.00
<b>Defendant</b> Senan	nayke, Omantha	
Total Charges	• ,	2.00
Total Payments and	nd Credits	2.00
Balance Due as of		0.00
Plaintiff Thames,	, Joshua	
Total Charges	,	548.00
Total Payments and	nd Credits	548.00
Balance Due as of		0.00

### **EXHIBIT "B-2"**

# Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure

Case 7:16-cv-00097-O Document 1-2 Filed 08/01/16

Page 8 fof 54 PageID 16 2016-DCL-03343

5/19/2016 4:49:50 PM

10730306

Eric Garza Cameron County District Clerk By Linda Munoz Deputy Clerk

### 2016-DCL-03343

NO.		
110,		

IN THE CIVIL DISTRICT COURT OF JOSHUA THAMES, Plaintiff 8 CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS VS. QUANTUM FREIGHT LLC, OMANTHA Cameron County - 357th District Court SENANAYKE, Defendants TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

### PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION AND REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

### TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

P.

Prac. & Rem. Code 17.063.

Joshua Thames ("Mr. Thames"), Plaintiff, files this Plaintiff's Original Petition, complaining of Quantum Freight LLC ("Defendant Quantum") and Omantha Senanayke ("Defendant Senanayke"), collectively referred to as "Defendants", and for cause of action would show the following:

- 1. The discovery in this case will be conducted under Level 2 per Rule 190, Tex. R. Civ.
  - 2. Mr. Thames is an individual currently residing in Henrietta, Texas.
- 3. Defendant Quantum Freight LLC is a Texas Limited Liability Company, and may be served with process by serving its registered agent, Juan Jauregui Sr, 858 W. Price Rd, Brownsville, TX 78520. Plaintiff requests issuance of citation for this Defendant.
- 4. Defendant Omantha Senanayke is an individual currently believed to be (a) residing at 455 W Duell St, Azusa, CA 91702. This Defendant may be served with process by serving Ted Houghton, Chair of the Texas Transportation Commission, at 125 E 11th Street, Austin, TX 78701-2483, as the agent for service because said Defendant is a nonresident of Texas in a suit that grows out of a collision in which the Defendant was involved while operating a motor vehicle in Texas, and/or because the Defendant is a nonresident who was a resident at the time the cause of action accrued but has subsequently moved from the state. Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code 17.062. Plaintiff asks that citation be issued for service on The Chair. The Chair will then forward Y the process to Defendant at the above address 455 W Duell St, Azusa, CA 91702, under Ten CiviERK

JUL 27 2016

### CERTIFIED COPY

- (b) Defendant Omantha Senanayke is an individual who may be served with process at 455 W Duell St, Azusa, CA 91702. Plaintiff requests issuance of citation for this Defendant.
- Venue is proper in Cameron County because Defendant Quantum Freight LLC has a principal office in Cameron County.
- 6. **Request for Disclosure.** Pursuant to Rule 194 of the TRCP, the Defendants are requested to disclose, within fifty (50) days of service of this request, the information or material described in Rule 194.2.
- 7. This suit is brought under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Texas to recover those damages which Mr. Thames is justly entitled to receive as compensation for the personal injuries and damages that he sustained as a result of a motor vehicle collision that occurred on or about June 7, 2015. Mr. Thames would show that the injuries and damages occurred, directly and proximately, by the reason of the negligence of the Defendants.
- 8. On or about June 7, 2015, in Clay County, Texas, Mr. Thames was a passenger in a vehicle that was involved in a collision with an eighteen-wheeler driven by Defendant Senanayke, resulting in Mr. Thames sustaining serious personal injuries and damages, for which he now sues.
- 9. The incident made the basis of this lawsuit resulted from the negligence of Defendant Omantha Senanayke in one or more of the following particulars:
  - Failing to keep a proper lookout as would have been kept by a reasonably prudent person under the same or similar circumstances;
  - Operating his vehicle at an improper rate of speed for the circumstances then existing;
  - Failing to apply brakes in a timely fashion and/or to take such other evasive action as a prudent person would have done using ordinary care under the same or similar circumstances;
  - d. Failing to control the speed and direction of his vehicle and violating VTCA, Transportation Code, §545 et seq.;
  - e. Following too closely behind another vehicle;

f. Failing to maintain an assured clear distance between the two A - DISTRICT CLERK vehicles so that, considering the speed of the vehicles, traffic, and the

JUL 27 2016

DISTRICT COURT O CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

conditions of the highway, she could safely stop without colliding with the preceding vehicle, in violation of the common law and VTCA, Transportation Code, §545.062; and

g. Other acts and/or omissions constituting negligence at common law and/or negligence *per se* under the State and Federal laws.

The above described acts of negligence, gross negligence, and/or negligence per se on the part of Defendant Omantha Senanayke proximately caused the incident made the basis of this lawsuit, as well as the injuries and damages sustained by Mr. Thames.

- 10. At the time of the incident made the basis of this lawsuit, Defendant Quantum was the owner/lessor of the motor vehicle that was being operated by Defendant Senanayke. Mr. Thames further alleges that at the time of the incident made the basis of this suit, Defendant Senanayke was in the course and scope of employment with Defendant Quantum. Therefore, Defendant Quantum is liable for the negligence of Defendant Senanayke under the doctrine of respondent superior. Furthermore, Defendant Quantum was negligent, negligent per se, and/or grossly negligent for the hiring, retention, training, and supervision of Defendant Senanayke. Furthermore, Defendant Quantum is liable to Mr. Thames for negligent entrustment and negligent maintenance of the vehicle that was being operated by Defendant Senanayke. All of the above-described acts and other acts and/or omissions constituted negligence, negligence per se, and/or gross negligence that proximately caused the incident made the basis of this lawsuit, as well as the injuries and damages sustained by Mr. Thames. Defendant Quantum is therefore directly liable for the injuries and damages sustained by Plaintiffs. Defendant Quantum is further liable in punitive damages for the negligent acts of its employee, Defendant Senanayke, because Defendant Senanayke was unfit and Defendant Quantum was reckless in employing him.
- bodily injuries, aggravation, pain and suffering, mental anguish, physical limitation, disfigurement, impairment and loss of earning capacity in the past, and in all reasonable probability will continue to suffer more of the foregoing damages in the future. Furthermore, Mr. Thames has incurred medical expenses and in all reasonable probability will continue to do so in the future. Mr. Thames hereby sues to recover for the foregoing injuries and damages and all other damages, economic and non-economic, past and future, special and general, compensatory and punitive, statutory and common FY

ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

JUL 27 2016

DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

By Deputy #4

law, legal and equitable, directly and indirectly, caused by the incident made the basis of this lawsuit.

- 12. Mr. Thames seeks that sum of money, if paid now in cash, which would fairly and reasonably compensate him for the injuries and damages that resulted from the occurrence in question. Mr. Thames defers to the trier of facts as to that sum. The aforesaid actual past and future injuries and damages were sustained by Mr. Thames, aggregating in a fair and reasonable sum in excess of the minimum jurisdictional limits of this court. Mr. Thames seeks monetary relief over \$1,000.000.00.
- 13. For these reasons, Mr. Thames requests that the Defendants be cited to appear and answer herein, that judgment be granted for Mr. Thames and against the Defendants, jointly and severally, for a fair and reasonable sum, together with exemplary damages, pre-judgment interest as allowed by law, at the maximum legal rates, and post judgment interest on the judgment at the maximum legal rate herein; that Mr. Thames recover his costs of court herein expended, and all other general and special relief, at law or in equity, to which Mr. Thames may be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

NICK MARAM & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

By: /S/ Rory S. Alter

Nick Maram

State Bar No.: 15027850 nmaram@nickmaram.com

Rory S. Alter

State Bar No.: 01118500 roryalter@nickmaram.com 811 North Loop West

Houston, Texas 77008

Tel.: (713) 271-5555

Fax: (713) 974-0653

Attorneys for Plaintiff



A TRUE COPY I CERTIFY ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

JUL 27 2016

DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

By Deputy #4

### **EXHIBIT "B-3"**

**Civil Case Information Sheet** 

20 Case 7:16-cv-00097-O Document 1x20 Filed 08/01/16 Page 13 of 54 PageID 21 Cameron County - 357th District C

	2016-DCL-03343	Carleton County - 557 th
CAUSE NUMBER (FOR CLERK USE ONLY):		COURT (FOR CLERK USE ONLY):

A civil case information sheet must be completed and submitted when an original petition or application is filled to initiate a new civil, family law, probate, or mental health case or when a post-judgment petition for modification or motion for enforcement is filled in a family law case. The information should be the best available at the time of filing.

. Contact information for person completing case information sheet:		Names of parties in case:		Person or entity completing sheet is:		
Name Email.		Plaintiff(s)/Petitioner(s)		Attorney for Plaintiff/Petitioner  Pro Se Plaintiff/Petitioner  Title IV-D Agency		
Rocy S. atter	- roughler and	tmoro	m. Joshoa	1 homes	Other	
Address	Telephone: TON	)				
BIIN loop West	713-271-555	5			Additiona	Parties in Child Support Case
		_	Defendant(s)/Respon	dent(s)	Custodial	Parent
City/State/Zip	Fax	- 2	Quantom	reight LLC	_	-
Huston, Tx Ta	18 713 974 065	22	months S		Non-Cust	odial Parent
Signature	State Bar No.		20.01	- Lings	Presumed	Talkas
	01118500				Presumed	rather
2. Indicate case type, or identify	the most immediate house in the	ana feala	[Arrach additional page as no	tonssary to list all parties!		
2. Indicase case type, or identity	Civil	Case isete	crondy 1):		Fam	ily Law
Contract	below or Dones		Deal Personal	Massian D.L.		Post-judgment Actions
Debt/Contract    Consumer/DTPA   Debt/Contract   Fraud/Misrepresentation	Injury or Damage  Assault/Battery Construction Defamation Malpractice	□Ps	Real Property minent Domain/ ondemnation artition uset Title	Marriage Relat	age Void	(non-Title IV-D)  Enforcement  Modification—Custody  Modification—Other
Other Debt/Contract  Foreclosure  Home Equity—Expedited	Accounting   Legal   Medical   Other Professional	□ Ti	respass to Try Title ther Property.			Fifte IV-D  Enforcement/Modification  Paternity  Reciprocals (UIFSA)
Other Foreclosure	Liability.		Related to Criminal		-	Support Order
☐Franchise ☐Insurance	Motor Vehicle Accident		Matters	Other Family Law		Parent-Child Relationship
Landlord/Tenant Non-Competition Partnership Other Contract	Premises  Product Liability  Asbestos/Silica  Other Product Liability List Product  Other Injury or Damage.	Writ of Habeas Cor Pre-indictment		Judgment Termin    Habeas Corpus   Child is     Name Change   Child is     Protective Order   Custod     Removal of Disabilities of Minority   Grandj     Other   Parent		Adoption/Adoption with Termination Child Protection Child Support Custody or Visitation Gestational Parenting Grandparent Access Parentinge/Paternity Termination of Parental
Employment	Ou	her Civil				Rights Dither Parent-Child
Discrimination Retaliation Termination Workers' Compensation Other Employment	Administrative Appeal Antitrust/Unfair Competition Code Violations Foreign Judgment Intellectual Property		awyer Discipline erpetuate Testimony ecurities/Stock ortious Interference ther			Goner Faren-Chia
Tax			Probata & A	Mental Health		
□ Tax Appraisal     Probate Wills Intextate Administration     □ Guardianship—Adult       □ Tax Delinquency     □ Dependent Administration     □ Guardianship—Minor       □ Other Tax     □ Independent Administration     □ Mental Health       □ Other Estate Proceedings     □ Other						
3. Indicate procedure or remed	v. if applicable (may relect more	than D:				
Appeal from Municipal or Justation-related Attachment Bill of Review Certiorari Class Action  4. Indicate damages sought (do Less than \$100,000, including Less than \$100,000 and non-	stice Court    Decl	aratory Judinshment releader inse indemnes judgment se):	STRICT CO	Prote	NO BA	COPY I CERTIFY READ-BISTRICT CLERK  JL 27 2016
Over \$100, 000 but not more to Over \$200,000 but not more to Over \$1,000,900	than \$200,000	CAS	M	17.	RIOT COURT	
		and a	COUNTY	By J	10 Mg	Repuly 1/4

### **EXHIBIT "B-4"**

### Service of Citation by Certified Mail to Omantha Senanayke

### CITATION BY CERTIFIED/REGULAR MAIL

### THE STATE OF TEXAS

### 2016-DCL-03343-E

TO **Omantha Senanayke** By serving Ted Houghton Chair of the Texas Transportation Co at 125 E 11th Street Austin TX 78701-2483:

**Joshua Thames** 

VS

Quantum Freight LLC; Omantha Senanayke

§ 8 OF

IN THE 357TH DISTRICT COURT

CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney does not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you." TRCP. 99

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 357th District Court of Cameron County, at the Courthouse in said County in Brownsville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure was filed in said court on May 19, 2016, in the above entitled cause.

The File Number of Suit Being: 2016-DCL-03343-E

The Style of the Case is:

Joshua Thames vs. Quantum Freight LLC, Omantha Senanayke

The nature of Petitioner's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure accompanying this citation and made a part hereof.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Brownsville, Texas, on this the 23rd day of May, 2016.

ATTORNEY:

RORY STEPHEN ALTER 2323 S Voss Rd Suite 600 Houston TX 77057

PHONE: 713-974-9078

Eric Garza District Clerk

Cameron County, Texas

Adriana Munoz, Deputy Clerk

A TRUE COPY I CERTIFY ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

JUL 27 2016

### CERTIFIED COPY

2016-DCL-03343-E	357th District Court
Joshua Thames vs. Quantum	Freight LLC,Omantha Senanayke

#### RETURN OF SERVICE

#### CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY BY FIRST CLASS MAIL / CERTIFIED MAIL

Came to hand on this the 23rd day of May, 2016 I hereby certify that on May 23, 2016, I mailed to Omantha Senanayke By serving Ted Houghton Chair of the Texas Transportation Co at 125 E 11th Street Austin TX 78701-2483 by FIRST CLASS MAIL / CERTIFIED MAIL (WITH DELIVERY RESTRICTED TO ADDRESSEE ONLY, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED), a true copy of this CITATION with a copy of the Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure attached hereto.



Eric Garza **District Clerk** 

Cameron County, Texas

Adriana Munoz, Deputy Clerk

A TRUE COPY I CERTIFY ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

JUL 27 2016

### **EXHIBIT "B-5"**

Affidavit of Service - Quantum Freight, LLC

### 357th District Court of CAMERON County, Texas

974 EAST HARRISON ST. BROWNSVILLE TX 78520

CASE #: 2016-DCL-03343-E

JOSHUA THAMES

Plaintiff

QUANTUM FREIGHT LLC, OMANTHA SENANAYKE

**FILED** 2016-DCL-03343 6/14/2016 2:20:52 PM Cameron County - 357th District Court Eric Garza Cameron County District Clerk By Brenda Ramirez Deputy Clerk

RUSH SERVICE

Defendant

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I, MIGUEL GARZA, make statement to the fact; That I am a competent person more than 18 years of age or older and not a party to this action, nor interested in outcome of the suit. That I received the documents stated below on 06/09/16 11:29 am, instructing for same to be delivered upon Quantum Freight LLC By Delivering To Its Registered Agent Juan Jauregui.

That I delivered to

: Quantum Freight LLC By Delivering To Its Registered Agent Juan

: Jauregui.

the following

: CITATION; PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION AND REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

11136828

at this address

: 1600 Northshore Dr

: San Benito, Cameron County, TX 78586

Manner of Delivery

: by PERSONALLY delivering the document(s) to the person above.

Delivered on

: JUN 10, 2016 8:09 pm

My name is MIGUEL GARZA, my date of birth is APR 28th, 1958, and my address is Professional Civil Process McAllen, Professional Civil Process Brownsville, 106 S. 12th Avenue, Suite 118, Edinburg TX 78539, and U.S.A. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

ecuted in Hidalgo County, State of Texas, on the

MIGUEL GARZA

Declarant

1573

Texas Certification#: SCH-10129 Exp. 01/31/19

SO Inv#: A16601403

PCE TIVE: V1669 80 E COPY I CERTIFY

Private Process Server

Professional Civil Process Of Texas, Inc

103 Vista View Trail Spicewood TX 78669 (512) 477-3500

+ Service Fee: 85.00

Witness Fee: .00

.00 Mileage Fee:

JUL 27 2016

ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

tomcat

Maram, Nick

"Humanan

E-FILE RETURN

### **CITATION** - PERSONAL SERVICE - TRCP 99

### THE STATE OF TEXAS

### 2016-DCL-03343-E

**Joshua Thames** VS Quantum Freight LLC IN THE 357TH DISTRICT COURT

OF

co co co CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

TO Quantum Freight LLC C/O Registered Agent Juan Jauregui 858 W Price Road Brownsville TX 78520, GREETING:

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney does not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you." TRCP. 99

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of service of this citation before the Honorable 357th District Court of Cameron County, at the Courthouse in said County in Brownsville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure was filed in said court on May 19, 2016, in the above entitled cause.

The file number of said suit being 2016-DCL-03343-E

The style of the case is: Joshua Thames Quantum Freight LLC, Omantha Senanayke

The nature of Petitioner's demand is fully shown by a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Original Petition and Request for Disclosure accompanying this citation and made a part hereof.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Brownsville, Texas, on this the 23rd day of May, 2016.

ATTORNEY:

**RORY STEPHEN ALTER** 01118500 713-974-9078 2323 S Voss Rd Suite 600 Houston TX 77057

Eric Garza District Clerk

Cameron County, Texas

RUE COPY I CERTIFY RZA - DISTRICT CLERK

Adriana Munoz, Deputy Clerk || | 2 7 2016

PDF created with pdfFactory Pro trial version www.pdffactory.com

2016-DCL-03343-E			Joshua Thames	
- 357th District Cou	rt	Quantum	vs. Freight LLC,Omanth	na Senanayke
	RETURN O	F SERVICE		
Executed when copy is delivered:				
This is a true copy of the original citatio , 20		efendant	, on t	the day of
NAME/ADDRESS FOR SE	ERVICE			Officer
		-		_County, TX
		Ву:		Deputy
		S RETURN		
Came to hand on the day of	and defendants in an	, ato'clock	m and	County, Texas
by delivering to each of the within nar the date of delivery endorsed thereon, the following times and places, to wit:	together with the acc	companying copy	of the	will a
NAME	DATE/TIME	PLACE	/COURSE/DISTANCE FI	ROM COURTHOUSE
And not executed as to the defendant(s	s).	-		
The diligence used in finding said defe				
and the cause or failure to execute this	process is:			
and the information received as to the	whereabouts of said d	efendant(s) being		
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			ALLIANT	
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COMPLETE IF YOU ARE A PERS In accordance with Rule 107: The offi return. The signature is not required t the clerk of the court, the return shall be "My name is	cer or authorized pers to be verified. If the re e signed under penalt	son who serves, on eturn is signed by y or perjury and co	r attempts to serve, a a person other than a ontain the following sta	citation shall sign the a sheriff, constable or atement:
I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PE	RJURY THAT THE FO	OREGOING IS TR	RUE AND CORRECT.	
	ounty, State of			. 20
ID Number/Expiration of Certification		Declarant/Autho	rized Process Server	
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	1805	marinimum Of the		
	1 1	1 121	A TRUE COP	
	E* \		ERIC GARZA	- DISTRICT CLERK
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	Eg/	IN SI	JUL 27	7 2016
			JUL 27	7 2016
		COUNT	JUL 27	

### **EXHIBIT "B-6"**

Defendant Omantha Senanayke's Motion to Transfer Venue and Original Answer Subject Thereto

CERTIFIE 2016-DCL-03343 6/28/2016 4:09:30 PM

Eric Garza
Cameron County District

CAUSE NO. 2016-DCL-03343

Cameron County District Clerk By Janet Lopez Deputy Clerk 11381670

JOSHUA THAMES	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS
QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC AND	§	
OMANTHA SENANAYKE	§	
Defendants.	§	357 <sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

### DEFENDANT OMANTHA SENANAYKE'S MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE AND ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

### TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, Omantha Senanayke, (hereinafter "Defendant"), and files this his Motion to Transfer Venue and Original Answer Subject Thereto in response to Plaintiff's Original Petition, and in support thereof would respectfully show unto this Honorable Court as follows:

### I. MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE

### A. Background

This is a personal injury lawsuit that arises from a motor vehicle accident on or about June 7, 2015, in Clay County, Texas, wherein Plaintiff alleges that Defendant's negligent conduct caused him to sustain personal injuries for which he seeks monetary damages. Plaintiff alleges venue is proper in Cameron County. *See* Plaintiff's Original Petition on file with the Court at p. 3.

Plaintiff alleges that venue is proper in Cameron County, Texas because Defendant

Quantum Freight, LLC a principle place of business in Cameron County, Texas. This assertion

is incorrect. Quantum Freight, LLC is a California entity with its principle place of business in TIFY

ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO 1943908

JUL 27 2016E1

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Cucamonga, California. Hence, there is no connection to Cameron County, Texas. Defendant establishes that the location of the accident made the basis of this litigation was not in Cameron County when the cause of action accrued, but rather was in Clay County, Texas, and that Defendant's residence when the cause of action accrued was and is California. Venue is improper in Cameron County. Venue is proper in Clay County.

Plaintiff has failed to establish venue is proper in Cameron County, Texas. Therefore, Defendant requests that the Court grant this Motion to Transfer Venue, and transfer this cause to Clay County, Texas.

### **B.** Argument & Authorities

#### 1. General Rule

The general venue rule provides: All lawsuits shall be brought:

- 1. In the county in which all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred;
- 2. In the county of defendant's residence at the time the cause of action accrued if defendant is a natural person;
- 3. In the county of the defendant's principal office in this state, if the defendant is not a natural person; or
- 4. If subsections (1) (2), and (3) do not apply, in the county in which the plaintiff resided at the time of the accrual of the cause of action.

Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 15.002.

Plaintiffs Original Petition states that "venue is proper in Cameron County," by erroneously asserting that Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC has a principle place of business in Cameron County, Texas. Plaintiff has sued and served the wrong entity. Quantum Freight, LLC is a California entity with its principle place of business in Cucamonga, California. Quantum Freight, LLC a California entity does not have a place of business in Texas and did not have a ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO 2 7 2016

PAGE 2

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place of business in Texas at the time of the accident made the basis of this suit. Plaintiff admits that the accident made the basis of this suit occurred in Clay County, Texas. *Id. at p. 2.* Plaintiff further admits that Defendant is a resident of California. *Id. at p. 1.* The accident made the basis of this suit occurred in Clay County, Texas. Further, Defendant resides now, and did at the time the cause of action accrued, at 455 W. Duell St., Azusa, California. *Id. at* §4.

Defendant specifically denies Plaintiff's assertion/venue facts that venue in this case is proper in Cameron County, Texas. Venue is proper in Clay County as this is the location of the accident.

Given its lack of ties to the present action or the parties involved, Cameron County would not be the proper county to hear this suit. Rather, Clay County, Texas, would be the appropriate venue. Because Plaintiff has failed to establish venue and because the facts do not support maintaining the action in Cameron County, Texas, the Court must transfer to Clay County, a proper county under the general venue provision.

#### 2. Convenience

In the alternative, Defendant asserts that maintenance of the suit in Cameron County is an inconvenient venue for the parties and witnesses. The Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code states:

For the convenience of the parties and witnesses and in the interest of justice, a court may transfer an action from a county of proper venue ... to any other county of proper venue on motion of a defendant filed and served concurrently with or before the filing of the answer where the court finds:

(1) maintenance of the action in the county of suit would work an injustice to the movant considering the movant's economic and personal hardship;

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO JUL 27 2016 AGE 3

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DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

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- (2) the balance of interests of all the parties predominates in favor of the action being brought in the other county; and
- (3) the transfer of the action would not work an injustice to any other party.

Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code Ann. §15.002(b) (Vernon Supp. 2002).

#### a. Present Venue Works an Injustice

As the accident occurred in Clay County, Cameron County is clearly not a convenient county for the numerous witnesses and the parties. Also, Defendant has no ties/connection to Cameron County. The maintenance of the action in Cameron County would work an economic and personal hardship on the movant, the other parties and their respective witnesses. It would be costly and time-consuming for all these witnesses and parties to have to travel to Cameron County for court appearances, discovery, and conferences. Venue in Cameron County would work an injustice to all parties considering the increased difficulty of travel to, and the economic hardship of litigating in, this county.

#### b. Balance of Interests of All Parties

The balance of interests of all the parties predominates in favor of the action being brought in Clay County. The alleged acts and/or omissions made the basis of this suit against Defendant occurred in Clay County. The Defendant's interest is to have the necessary witnesses easily and conveniently available for participation in this suit. Forcing Defendant to bring numerous witnesses to Cameron County for trial, inconveniences the witnesses and in so doing prejudices the Defendant. The Plaintiff has no interest in maintaining this action in Cameron County. As such, the interests of all parties suggest that this matter should be maintained in Clay County.

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO 2 7 2016

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Deputy #4

### c. Transfer Would Not Work Injustice To Any Party

Transferring the action to Clay County would not work an injustice to any party. There is no hardship or injustice to Plaintiff or its counsel in this matter. Transferring the action to Clay County would also be in the interest of justice for the reasons stated above.

#### d. Conclusion

Maintaining venue of this matter in Cameron County works an injustice to the witnesses, and parties. Venue in Clay County would be more convenient because it is the site of the accident, the area in which the many witnesses reside. The Defendant, as well as the witnesses, will have to incur expenses to attend depositions, hearings, and trial. It would be far less expensive and far more manageable for all to travel to Clay County.

Based on the facts and arguments above, and for the convenience of the parties and in the interest of justice, Defendant moves that this Court transfer venue to Clay County, Texas.

## II. DEFENDANT'S ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT TO MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE

Defendant denies each and every, all and singular, the allegations contained in Plaintiff's Original Petition and demands strict proof thereof as authorized by TEXAS RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 92.

#### PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant prays that the Court grant Defendant's Motion to Transfer Venue transferring the suit to Clay County, Texas, and prays that upon final hearing hereof, Plaintiff takes nothing by way of its cause of action herein, that

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

By Deputy #4

Defendant recovers its costs herein expended and for such other and further relief, at law or in equity, to which Defendant may show itself justly entitled to receive.

Respectfully submitted,

SARGENT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/ Colleen McCoy

DAVID L. SARGENT State Bar No. 17648700 COLLEEN MCCOY State Bar No. 24027492

1717 Main Street, Suite 4750 Dallas, Texas 75201 (214) 749-6000 Direct Telephone (214) 749-6100 Direct Facsimile david.sargent@sargentlawtx.com colleen.mccoy@sargentlawtx.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT OMANTHA SENANAYKE

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 28<sup>TH</sup> day of June, 2016, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing instrument was forwarded to the following counsel via facsimile to:

Rory S. Alter Nick Maram & Associates, P.C. 811 North Loop West Houston, TX 77008

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

/s/ Colleen McCoy
COLLEEN MCCOY

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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DISTRICT COURT OF AMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

### **EXHIBIT "B-7"**

# Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition and Request for Disclosure

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FILED 2016-DCL-03343

2016-DCL-03343 7/6/2016 4:04:01 PM

Eric Garza

Cameron County District Clerk By Rosa Ochoa Deputy Clerk

11499296

NO. 2016-DCL-03343

JOSHUA THAMES, § IN THE CIVIL DISTRICT COURT OF Plaintiff §

8

vs. § CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

§

Defendants § 357TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

### PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED ORIGINAL PETITION AND REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

#### TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Joshua Thames ("Mr. Thames"), Plaintiff, files this Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition, complaining of Quantum Freight LLC ("Defendant Quantum") and Omantha Senanayke ("Defendant Senanayke"), collectively referred to as "Defendants", and for cause of action would show the following:

- The discovery in this case will be conducted under Level 2 per Rule 190, Tex. R. Civ.
   P.
  - 2. Mr. Thames is an individual currently residing in Henrietta, Texas.
- 3. (a) Defendant **Quantum Freight LLC** is a Texas Limited Liability Company, and may be served with process by serving its registered agent, **Juan Jauregui Sr**, **858 W. Price Rd**, **Brownsville**, **TX 78520.** No further issuance of this citation is requested for this Defendant.
- (b) Alternatively, **Defendant Quantum Freight LLC** is a non-resident entity doing business in the State of Texas, with its home office located at **13110 Sylvaner Ct**, **Rancho Cucamonga**, **California 91739**. Said entity has not designated a resident agent for service of process in the State of Texas. Plaintiff therefore alleges that the Secretary of State of Texas is the proper agent for service under CPRC §17.044 (a)(1). Plaintiff requests that citation be issued for this Defendant and forwarded via **Certified Mail**, **Return Receipt Requested**, to the **Office of the Secretary of State**, **Statutory Documents Section Citations Unit**, **P.O. Box 12079**, **Austin**, **TX 78711-2079**.
  - (c) Alternatively, **Defendant Quantum Freight LLC** is a non-resident entity

doing business in the State of Texas, and may be served with process by serving any person in charge at 13110 Sylvaner Ct, Rancho Cucamonga, California 91739.

- 4. (a) Defendant **Omantha Senanayke** is an individual currently believed to be residing at **455** W **Duell St**, **Azusa**, **CA 91702**. This Defendant may be served with process by serving **Ted Houghton**, **Chair of the Texas Transportation Commission**, at **125** E **11th Street**, **Austin**, **TX 78701-2483**, as the agent for service because said Defendant is a nonresident of Texas in a suit that grows out of a collision in which the Defendant was involved while operating a motor vehicle in Texas, and/or because the Defendant is a nonresident who was a resident at the time the cause of action accrued but has subsequently moved from the state. *Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code 17.062*. The Chair will then forward the process to Defendant at the above address, **455** W **Duell St**, **Azusa**, **CA 91702**, under *Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code 17.063*. No further issuance of citation is requested for this Defendant.
- (b) Defendant **Omantha Senanayke** is an individual who may be served with process at **455 W Duell St, Azusa, CA 91702.** No further issuance of citation is requested for this Defendant.
- 5. Venue is proper in Cameron County because Defendant Quantum Freight LLC has a principal office in Cameron County.
- 6. **Request for Disclosure.** Pursuant to Rule 194 of the TRCP, the Defendants are requested to disclose, within fifty (50) days of service of this request, the information or material described in Rule 194.2.
- 7. This suit is brought under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Texas to recover those damages which Mr. Thames is justly entitled to receive as compensation for the personal injuries and damages that he sustained as a result of a motor vehicle collision that occurred on or about June 7, 2015. Mr. Thames would show that the injuries and damages occurred, directly and proximately, by the reason of the negligence of the Defendants.
- 8. On or about June 7, 2015, in Clay County, Texas, Mr. Thames was a passenger in a vehicle that was involved in a collision with an eighteen-wheeler driven by Defendant Senanayke, resulting in Mr. Thames sustaining serious personal injuries and damages, for which he now sues.
- 9. The incident made the basis of this lawsuit resulted from the negligence of Defendant Omantha Senanayke in one or more of the following particulars:

- a. Failing to keep a proper lookout as would have been kept by a reasonably prudent person under the same or similar circumstances;
- b. Operating his vehicle at an improper rate of speed for the circumstances then existing;
- c. Failing to apply brakes in a timely fashion and/or to take such other evasive action as a prudent person would have done using ordinary care under the same or similar circumstances;
- d. Failing to control the speed and direction of his vehicle and violating VTCA, Transportation Code, §545 *et seq.*;
- e. Following too closely behind another vehicle;
- f. Failing to maintain an assured clear distance between the two vehicles so that, considering the speed of the vehicles, traffic, and the conditions of the highway, she could safely stop without colliding with the preceding vehicle, in violation of the common law and VTCA, Transportation Code, §545.062; and
- g. Other acts and/or omissions constituting negligence at common law and/or negligence *per se* under the State and Federal laws.

The above described acts of negligence, gross negligence, and/or negligence *per se* on the part of Defendant Omantha Senanayke proximately caused the incident made the basis of this lawsuit, as well as the injuries and damages sustained by Mr. Thames.

10. At the time of the incident made the basis of this lawsuit, Defendant Quantum was the owner/lessor of the motor vehicle that was being operated by Defendant Senanayke. Mr. Thames further alleges that at the time of the incident made the basis of this suit, Defendant Senanayke was in the course and scope of employment with Defendant Quantum. Therefore, Defendant Quantum is liable for the negligence of Defendant Senanayke under the doctrine of *respondeat superior*. Furthermore, Defendant Quantum was negligent, negligent *per se*, and/or grossly negligent for the hiring, retention, training, and supervision of Defendant Senanayke. Furthermore, Defendant Quantum is liable to Mr. Thames for negligent entrustment and negligent maintenance of the vehicle that was being operated by Defendant Senanayke. All of the above-described acts and other acts and/or omissions constituted negligence, negligence *per se*, and/or gross negligence that proximately

caused the incident made the basis of this lawsuit, as well as the injuries and damages sustained by Mr. Thames. Defendant Quantum is therefore directly liable for the injuries and damages sustained by Plaintiffs. Defendant Quantum is further liable in punitive damages for the negligent acts of its employee, Defendant Senanayke, because Defendant Senanayke was unfit and Defendant Quantum was reckless in employing him.

- 11. As a result of the incident made the basis of this lawsuit, Mr. Thames has suffered bodily injuries, aggravation, pain and suffering, mental anguish, physical limitation, disfigurement, impairment and loss of earning capacity in the past, and in all reasonable probability will continue to suffer more of the foregoing damages in the future. Furthermore, Mr. Thames has incurred medical expenses and in all reasonable probability will continue to do so in the future. Mr. Thames hereby sues to recover for the foregoing injuries and damages and all other damages, economic and non-economic, past and future, special and general, compensatory and punitive, statutory and common law, legal and equitable, directly and indirectly, caused by the incident made the basis of this lawsuit.
- 12. Mr. Thames seeks that sum of money, if paid now in cash, which would fairly and reasonably compensate him for the injuries and damages that resulted from the occurrence in question. Mr. Thames defers to the trier of facts as to that sum. The aforesaid actual past and future injuries and damages were sustained by Mr. Thames, aggregating in a fair and reasonable sum in excess of the minimum jurisdictional limits of this court. Mr. Thames seeks monetary relief over \$1,000.000.00.
- 13. For these reasons, Mr. Thames requests that the Defendants be cited to appear and answer herein, that judgment be granted for Mr. Thames and against the Defendants, jointly and severally, for a fair and reasonable sum, together with exemplary damages, pre-judgment interest as allowed by law, at the maximum legal rates, and post judgment interest on the judgment at the maximum legal rate herein; that Mr. Thames recover his costs of court herein expended, and all other general and special relief, at law or in equity, to which Mr. Thames may be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

NICK MARAM & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

By: <u>/S/ Rory S. Alter</u>

Nick Maram

State Bar No.: 15027850 nmaram@nickmaram.com

Rory S. Alter

State Bar No.: 01118500 roryalter@nickmaram.com 811 North Loop West Houston, Texas 77008

Tel.: (713) 271-5555 Fax: (713) 974-0653

Attorneys for Plaintiff

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument has been served on all parties of record by hand delivery, fax, or certified mail, return receipt requested pursuant to Rule 21a of the T.R.C.P, on July 6, 2016.

/S/ Rory S. Alter
Rory S. Alter

### **EXHIBIT "B-8"**

Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC's
Motion to Transfer Venue and
Original Answer, Affirmative Defenses and
Special Exceptions Subject to the
Defendant's Motion to Transfer

Case 7:16-cv-00097-O Document 1-2 Filed 08/01/16 Page 85 pof 54 PageID 43

Eric Garza

Cameron County District Clerk By Brenda Ramirez Deputy Clerk

CAUSE NO. 2016-DCL-03343

IN THE DISTRICT COURT

**JOSHUA THAMES** § 8 9000000 Plaintiff,

QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC AND OMANTHA SENANAYKE

Defendants.

CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

357TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

### DEFENDANT QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC'S MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE AND ORIGINAL ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES AND SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS SUBJECT TO THE DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO TRANSFER

#### TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, Quantum Freight, LLC (hereinafter "Defendant"), and files this its Motion to Transfer Venue and Original Answer, Affirmative Defenses and Special Exceptions Subject Thereto in to Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition and Request for Disclosure, and in support thereof would respectfully show unto this Honorable Court as follows:

### MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE

### A. Background

This is a personal injury lawsuit that arises from a motor vehicle accident on or about June 7, 2015, in Clay County, Texas, wherein Plaintiff alleges that Defendant is vicarious liable for the negligent conduct of its driver, Omantha Senanayke, which caused him to sustain personal injuries for which he seeks monetary damages. Plaintiff further alleges that Defendant was negligent, negligent per se and/or grossly negligent for the hiring, retention, training and supervision of Omantha Senanayke. Pleading further the Plaintiff further alleges that Defendant was negligent in entrusting its vehicle to Omantha Senanayke and was negligent in the maintenance of the vehicle operated by Omantha Senanayke. And such negligence was TIFY ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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1944456 1852/00006 approximate cause of the Plaintiff's injuries. Plaintiff alleges that venue is proper in Cameron County. See Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition on file with the Court at para.5, p. 2.

Plaintiff alleges that venue is proper in Cameron County, Texas because Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC a principle place of business in Cameron County, Texas. This assertion is incorrect. Quantum Freight, LLC is a California entity with its principle place of business in Rancho Cucamonga, California. *See* Ex. "A," hereto, Affidavit of Rishi Puri. Hence, there is no connection to Cameron County, Texas. Defendant establishes that the location of the accident made the basis of this litigation was not in Cameron County when the cause of action accrued, but rather was in Clay County, Texas, and that Defendant's principal place of business when the cause of action accrued was and is California. Venue is improper in Cameron County. Venue is proper in Clay County.

Plaintiff has failed to establish venue is proper in Cameron County, Texas. Therefore, Defendant requests that the Court grant this Motion to Transfer Venue, and transfer this cause to Clay County, Texas.

#### **B.** Argument & Authorities

#### 1. General Rule

The general venue rule provides: All lawsuits shall be brought:

- In the county in which all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred;
- In the county of defendant's residence at the time the cause of action accrued if defendant is a natural person;
- In the county of the defendant's principal office in this state, if the defendant is not a natural person; or

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PAGE 2

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

1944456 1852/00006 4. If subsections (1) (2), and (3) do not apply, in the county in which the plaintiff resided at the time of the accrual of the cause of action.

Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 15.002.

Plaintiffs Original Petition states that "venue is proper in Cameron County," by erroneously asserting that Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC has a principal place of business in Cameron County, Texas. Plaintiff has sued and served the wrong entity. Quantum Freight, LLC is a California entity with its principle place of business in Rancho Cucamonga, California. Quantum Freight, LLC a California entity does not have a place of business in Texas and did not have a place of business in Texas at the time of the accident made the basis of this suit. See Exhibit "A," hereto, Affidavit of Rishi Puri. Plaintiff admits that the accident made the basis of this suit occurred in Clay County, Texas. Id. at para. 8, p. 2. Plaintiff further admits that Defendant is a resident of California. Id. at para. 3(b) & (c), p. 1. The accident made the basis of this suit occurred in Clay County, Texas. Further, Defendant's principal place of business is 6134 Laurel Blossom Pl., Rancho Cucamonga, Ca., and was at the time the cause of action accrued.

Defendant specifically denies Plaintiff's assertion/venue facts that venue in this case is proper in Cameron County, Texas. Venue is proper in Clay County as this is the location of the accident.

Given its lack of ties to the present action or the parties involved, Cameron County would not be the proper county to hear this suit. Rather, Clay County, Texas, would be the appropriate venue. Because Plaintiff has failed to establish venue and because the facts do not support maintaining the action in Cameron County, Texas, the Court must transfer to Clay County, a proper county under the general venue provision.

COUNT

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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JUL 27 2016 PAGE 3

#### 2. Convenience

In the alternative, Defendant asserts that maintenance of the suit in Cameron County is an inconvenient venue for the parties and witnesses. The Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code states:

For the convenience of the parties and witnesses and in the interest of justice, a court may transfer an action from a county of proper venue ... to any other county of proper venue on motion of a defendant filed and served concurrently with or before the filing of the answer where the court finds:

- maintenance of the action in the county of suit would work an injustice to the movant considering the movant's economic and personal hardship;
- (2) the balance of interests of all the parties predominates in favor of the action being brought in the other county; and
- (3) the transfer of the action would not work an injustice to any other party.

Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code Ann. §15.002(b) (Vernon Supp. 2002).

#### a. Present Venue Works an Injustice

As the accident occurred in Clay County, Cameron County is clearly not a convenient county for the numerous witnesses and the parties. Also, Defendant has no ties/connection to Cameron County. The maintenance of the action in Cameron County would work an economic and personal hardship on the movant, the other parties and their respective witnesses. It would be costly and time-consuming for all these witnesses and parties to have to travel to Cameron County for court appearances, discovery, and conferences. Venue in Cameron County would work an injustice to all parties considering the increased difficulty of travel to, and the economic hardship of litigating in, this county.

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

#### b. Balance of Interests of All Parties

The balance of interests of all the parties predominates in favor of the action being brought in Clay County. The alleged acts and/or omissions made the basis of this suit against Defendant occurred in Clay County. The Defendant's interest is to have the necessary witnesses easily and conveniently available for participation in this suit. Forcing Defendant to bring numerous witnesses to Cameron County for trial, inconveniences the witnesses and in so doing prejudices the Defendant. The Plaintiff has no interest in maintaining this action in Cameron County. As such, the interests of all parties suggest that this matter should be maintained in Clay County.

#### c. Transfer Would Not Work Injustice To Any Party

Transferring the action to Clay County would not work an injustice to any party. There is no hardship or injustice to Plaintiff or its counsel in this matter. Transferring the action to Clay County would also be in the interest of justice for the reasons stated above.

#### d. Conclusion

Maintaining venue of this matter in Cameron County works an injustice to the witnesses, and parties. Venue in Clay County would be more convenient because it is the site of the accident, the area in which the many witnesses reside. The Defendant, as well as the witnesses, will have to incur expenses to attend depositions, hearings, and trial. It would be far less expensive and far more manageable for all to travel to Clay County.

Based on the facts and arguments above, and for the convenience of the parties and in the interest of justice, Defendant moves that this Court transfer venue to Clay County, Texas

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERET

# II. DEFENDANT'S ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT TO MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE

Defendant denies each and every, all and singular, the allegations contained in Plaintiff's Original Petition and demands strict proof thereof as authorized by TEXAS RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 92.

#### III. AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Comparative Fault: Defendant would further show that the damages or liabilities of which Plaintiff complains, if any exist, are the result in whole or in part of the negligence of Third Party in that Third Party failed to use that degree of care that a person of ordinary prudence would have used under the same or similar circumstances and that such acts and/or omissions were the proximate, producing, contributing and/or sole cause of the damages to Plaintiff, if any.

<u>Pre-existing Conditions:</u> Defendant would show that any injuries, damages, or liabilities complained of by Plaintiff herein are the result, in whole or in part, of pre-existing conditions, injuries, diseases, and disabilities and not the result of any act or omission on the part of Defendant.

Subsequent Conditions: Defendant would further show that any injuries, damages, or liabilities complained of by Plaintiff herein are the result, in whole or in part, of subsequent conditions, injuries, diseases, and disabilities and not the result of any act or omission on the part of Defendant.

<u>Unreasonable & Excessive Treatment & Expenses:</u> Defendant would further show that the medical treatment claimed by Plaintiff was excessive, unreasonable and unnecessary and that

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO JUL 27 2016 PAGE 6

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By Stephane Deputy #4

medical expenses claimed were unreasonable and unnecessary and were not proximately caused by any act and/or omission by Defendant.

<u>Failure Mitigate Damages:</u> Defendant would further show that any injuries, damages or liabilities complained of by Plaintiff herein are the result, in whole or in part, of Plaintiff's failure to mitigate damages.

<u>Paid or Incurred Medical Expenses:</u> Defendant would further show that Plaintiff's medical expenses should be limited to those actually paid or incurred by or on behalf of the claimant pursuant to Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code § 41.0105.

Loss of Earnings/Lost Profits. Defendant would further show that pursuant to § 18.091 of the Texas Rules of Civil Practice and Remedies Code to the extent that Plaintiff is seeking recovery of loss earnings, lost income, lost profits, lost wages, loss of earning capacity, and/or loss of contribution of pecuniary value, evidence of this alleged loss must be presented by Plaintiff in the form of a net loss after reduction for income tax payments or unpaid tax liability to any federal income tax law. Defendant further asserts the protections contained in § 18.091 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

For further answer, if same be necessary, Defendant alleges that Plaintiff's claims for pre-judgment interest are limited by the damages and amounts set forth in:

- a. Chapter 304, Texas Finance Code; and
- b. Chapter 41, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code;
   as applicable to this case.

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medical expenses claimed were unreasonable and unnecessary and were not proximately caused by any act and/or omission by Defendant.

<u>Failure Mitigate Damages</u>: Defendant would further show that any injuries, damages or liabilities complained of by Plaintiff herein are the result, in whole or in part, of Plaintiff's failure to mitigate damages.

<u>Paid or Incurred Medical Expenses:</u> Defendant would further show that Plaintiff's medical expenses should be limited to those actually paid or incurred by or on behalf of the claimant pursuant to Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code § 41.0105.

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For further answer, if same be necessary, Defendant alleges that Plaintiff's claims for pre-judgment interest are limited by the damages and amounts set forth in:

- a. Chapter 304, Texas Finance Code; and
- b. Chapter 41, Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code;
   as applicable to this case.

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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#### IV. SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS

Defendant objects and specially excepts to Paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition in which the Plaintiff alleges that Defendant is a Texas Limited Liability Company.

Defendant objects and specially excepts to Paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition in which the Plaintiff alleges that venue is proper in Cameron County, Texas because Defendant maintains a principal office in Cameron County, Texas. Defendant denies that venue is proper in Cameron County, Texas as Defendant does not maintain a principle place of business in Cameron County, Texas.

Defendant objects and specially excepts to Paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition in which the Plaintiff alleges that Defendant was negligent, grossly negligent and/or negligent per se in violating numerous rules, laws and regulations under State and Federal laws as the Plaintiff has failed to specify which rules, laws and regulations were violated. Defendant requires this information to properly prepare a defense. Further, to the extent any particular rules, laws and regulations are subsequently pleaded by Plaintiff, Defendant objects and specially excepts to each in that any statute cited, is conditional in nature, does not specify an absolute duty and therefore, according to Texas case law, cannot constitute negligence per se.

Defendant objects and specially excepts to Paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition in which the Plaintiff alleges that Defendant was negligent per se and/or grossly negligent in the hiring, retention, training and supervision of Omantha Senanayke. The Plaintiff's First Amended Petition fails to allege facts sufficient to establish the claims for liability for negligent hiring, retention, training and supervision.

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DISTRICTION OF CAMERON COUNTY TEXAS

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

Claims against an employer for negligently hiring, supervising, training or retaining are based on direct liability, not on vicarious liability. *Soon Phat, L.P. v. Alvarado*, 396 S.W.3d 78, 100-01 (Tex. App. – Houston [14<sup>th</sup> Dist.] 2013, pet. Denied). The Plaintiff's First Amended Original Complaint alleges no facts as to the supposed negligence of Defendant in hiring, supervising, training or retaining Omantha Senanayke. Rather, the Plaintiff pleads in general that Defendant Quantum was negligent, negligent per se and/or grossly negligent for hiring, retention, training and supervision of Defendant Senanayke. Plaintiff should be required to replead asserting facts sufficient to support these causes of action and if Plaintiff cannot, then the claims must be withdrawn.

Defendant objects and specially excepts to Paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's First Amended Original Petition in which the Plaintiff alleges that Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for negligent entrustment and negligent maintenance of the vehicle operated by Omantha Senanayke. The Plaintiff's First Amended Petition fails to allege facts sufficient to establish the claim for negligent entrustment and asserted no facts that negligence maintenance of the vehicle was a proximate cause of the accident made the basis of this suit.

For a claim of negligent entrustment to be sufficiently pleaded, the plaintiff must allege the following: (1) the owner entrusted its vehicle to another person; (2) that person was an unlicensed, incompetent, or reckless driver; (3) the owner knew or should have known the driver was unlicensed, incompetent, or reckless; (4) the driver was negligent on the occasion in question; and (5) the driver's negligence proximately caused the plaintiff's injury. *Goodyear Tire* & Rubber Co. v. Mayes, 236 S.W.3d 754, 758 (Tex. 2007). In this case the Plaintiff has failed to sufficiently allege facts to support the requisite elements for negligent entrustment. For example the First Amended Original Complaint fails to allege facts to support that Defendant knew or FY ERIC GARZA - DISTRICT CLERK

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO JUL 27 2016 PAGE 9

DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

By Deputy #4

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should have known that Omantha Senanayke was an unlicensed, incompetent and/or reckless driver, that Omantha Senanayke was operating a vehicle owned by Defendant, that Omantha Senanayke was negligent on the occasion in question, and that Omantha Senanayke's negligence proximately caused the plaintiff's injuries. Plaintiff should be required to re-plead asserting facts sufficient to support these causes of action and if Plaintiff cannot, then the claims must be withdrawn.

### V. <u>DESIGNATION OF RESPONSIBLE THIRD-PARTY</u>

Plaintiff was a passenger in a pick-up truck operated by Matthew Cole Stewart. Mr. Steward was traveling East bound on US 82 in Clay County, Texas; a two lane highway, in the late evening of June 7, 2015, when he slowed his vehicle to make a left turn onto N. Bryant Edwards Road without using a turn indicator. Matthew Cole Stewart was negligent in not using a turn indicator to notify following vehicles of his intent to make a left turn off roadway. The acts and/or omissions of Third-Party Matthew Cole Stewart were a proximate cause of the Plaintiff's damages.

Responsible Third Party, Matthew Cole Stewart: In accordance in accordance with Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code §33.004(a), the damage or liability of which Plaintiffs complain, if any exist, is the result, in whole or in part, of the negligence of a Third Party, Matthew Cole Stewart, in that he:

- 1. Failed to keep proper management and control of his vehicle;
- 2. Failed to keep a proper lookout;
- 3. Failed to use turn indicator;

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DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TE.

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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 Failed to take proper evasive action to avoid a collision; and, that such acts and/or omissions were the proximate, producing, contributing and/or sole cause of the damages to Plaintiffs, if any.

Defendant respectfully requests that this Court permit the designation of Lilibeth Del Rosario as a Responsible Third-Party pursuant to Section 33.002 of the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code.

## VI. JURY DEMAND

Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC, by and through its undersigned counsel, and pursuant to TEX. R. CIV. P. 216, demands a trial by jury.

#### PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant prays that the Court grant Defendant's Special Exceptions and require the Plaintiff to re-plead, and prays that upon final hearing hereof, Plaintiff takes nothing by way of its cause of action herein, that Defendant recovers its costs herein expended and for such other and further relief, at law or in equity, to which Defendant may show itself justly entitled to receive.

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JUL 27 2016

DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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DISTRICT POLITY OF CAMERON COUNTY TEXT

Respectfully submitted,

SARGENT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/ Colleen McCoy

DAVID L. SARGENT State Bar No. 17648700 COLLEEN MCCOY State Bar No. 24027492

1717 Main Street, Suite 4750 Dallas, Texas 75201 (214) 749-6000 Direct Telephone (214) 749-6100 Direct Facsimile david.sargent@sargentlawtx.com colleen.mccoy@sargentlawtx.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC AND OMANTHA SENANAYKE

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing instrument was forwarded to the following counsel via facsimile to:

Rory S. Alter Nick Maram & Associates, P.C. 811 North Loop West Houston, TX 77008

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

/s/ Colleen McCoy

**COLLEEN MCCOY** 

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DEFENDANT MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE & ORIGINAL ANSWER SUBJECT THERETO

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By Deputy #4

# **EXHIBIT "A"**



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JUL 27 2016

DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

By Cephan Deputy #4

#### CAUSE NO. 2016-DCL-03343

JOSHUA THAMES	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
Plaintiff,	8	
v. QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC AND	8 8	CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS
OMANTHA SENANAYKE  Defendants.	§ §	357 <sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

#### AFFIDAVIT OF RISHI PURI

STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

BEFORE ME, the undersigned official, on this date, appeared Rishi Puri, who is personally known to me, and after having been duly sworn upon his oath, deposed and stated as follows:

"My name is Rishi Puri. I am over the age of eighteen years, have never been convicted of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude, and am otherwise fully competent to make this Affidavit. I have personal knowledge of all the facts stated herein, and they are true and correct.

I am the owner of Quantum Freight, LLC, ("Quantum Freight"), a transportation company. Quantum Freight is a business entity formed in the State of California on or about July 16, 2007.

The following document is a true and correct copy of the Business Entity Detail from the California Secretary of State evidencing Quantum Freight, LLC formation as a California business entity.

Business Entity Detail from California Secretary of State for A TRUE COPY Exhibit A:

Quantum Freight, LLC.

JUL 2 7 2016

AFFIDAVIT OF RISHI PURI

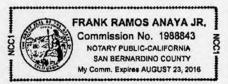
# Case 7:16-cv-00097-O Document 1-2 Filed 08/01/16 Page 50 of 54 PageID 58

Quantum Freight, LLC does not maintain a place of business in Cameron County, Texas.

Further Affiant sayeth not."

RISHI PURI

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on this /// day of July, 2016, to certify which witness my hand and official seal.



From Public, State of California

My Commission Expires:

8/23/2016

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DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

By Deputy #4

AFFIDAVIT OF RISHI PURI

## Business Case 7:16 cv-00097-0 Document 1-2 Filed 08/01/16 Page 51 of 54 Page D 59

Data is updated to the California Business Search on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Results reflect work processed through Tuesday, July 19, 2016. Please refer to <a href="Processing Times">Processing Times</a> for the received dates of filings currently being processed. The data provided is not a complete or certified record of an entity.

Entity Name: QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC

Entity Number: 200719710226

Date Filed: 07/16/2007

Status: ACTIVE

Jurisdiction: CALIFORNIA

Entity Address: 6134 LAUREL BLOSSOM PL

Entity City, State, Zip: RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91739

Agent for Service of Process: RISHI PURI

Agent Address: 6134 LAUREL BLOSSOM PL
Agent City, State, Zip: RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91739

- \* Indicates the information is not contained in the California Secretary of State's database.
- \* Note: If the agent for service of process is a corporation, the address of the agent may be requested by ordering a status report.
  - · For information on checking or reserving a name, refer to Name Availability.
  - For information on ordering certificates, copies of documents and/or status reports or to request a more extensive search, refer to Information Requests.
  - · For help with searching an entity name, refer to Search Tips.
  - For descriptions of the various fields and status types, refer to Field Descriptions and Statu Definitions.

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# **EXHIBIT "B-9"**

# Defendant Quantum Freight, LLC's Request for Jury Trial

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7/25/2016 9:52:51 AM

Eric Garza

Cameron County District Clerk By Brenda Ramirez Deputy Clerk

11797532

CAUSE NO. 2016-DCL-03343

JOSHUA THAMES	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
Plaintiff,	§ §	
v.	8	CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS
QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC AND OMANTHA SENANAYKE	§ §	
Defendants.	§	357 <sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT

#### DEFENDANT QUANTUM FREIGHT LLC'S REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL

COMES NOW, QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC, Defendant herein, and hereby requests that a jury trial be held on said cause. A jury fee has been paid by Defendant.

Respectfully submitted,

SARGENT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/ Colleen McCoy

DAVID L. SARGENT State Bar No. 17648700 COLLEEN MCCOY State Bar No. 24027492

1717 Main Street, Suite 4750
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 749-6000 Direct Telephone
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david.sargent@sargentlawtx.com
colleen.mccoy@sargentlawtx.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC AND OMANTHA SENANAYKE

DEFENDANT QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC'S REQUEST FOR JURY TRIAL

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DISTRICT COURT OF TAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

By Deputy #4

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing instrument was forwarded to the following counsel via facsimile to:

Rory S. Alter Nick Maram & Associates, P.C. 811 North Loop West Houston, TX 77008

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF** 

/s/ Colleen McCoy

**COLLEEN MCCOY** 

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DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

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Deputy #4

DEFENDANT QUANTUM FREIGHT, LLC'S REQUEST FOR JURY TRIA